

REMARKS:

- 1) The Examiner's attention is directed to an Information Disclosure Statement being filed together with this Response. The IDS identifies a Continuation and a Divisional of the present application, to which the Examiner's attention is directed. Please consider the IDS and return an initialed, signed and dated acknowledgment copy of the accompanying Form PTO-1449.
- 2) The claims have been amended as follows. Independent claim 1 has been amended editorially for simplification of the claim language, without changing the intended meaning or scope thereof. Claims 9, 10 and 12 have been amended for conformance with amended claim 1. Claim 13 has been canceled as duplicative of claim 15. These merely editorial revisions do not introduce any new matter. Entry and consideration thereof are respectfully requested.
- 3) After the present amendment, claims 1, 3 to 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17 to 19 and 21 to 25 read on the elected Species. Independent claims 1 and 19 are generic. Upon the allowance of the independent generic claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to rejoin, consider and allow the dependent claims directed to non-elected Species.

4270/WFF:ar

- 11 -

- 4) Referring to section 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the objection for lack of clarity in claim 1 has been addressed in the present amendment. Instead of the previous objectionable phrasing, claim 1 now defines "a first element selected from a group consisting of said side wall and said side member", and "a second element selected from said group". It is submitted that this phrasing is now clearly understandable and avoids the complexity of the prior phrasing. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection to claims 1, 3 to 6, 8, 9, 11 to 15, 17 and 18.
- 5) Referring to section 4 on page 4 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 1, 3 to 6, 8, 9, 11 to 15, 17 and 18 for lack of enablement under 35 USC §112, first paragraph is respectfully traversed. It appears that the Examiner has misinterpreted the portion of prior claim 1 that was found unclear and objectionable as discussed above.

The phrase "a first one of said side wall ... and said side member..." is of the form "a first one of A and B". This is intended to have the same meaning as "a first element selected from a group consisting of A and B", which could generally be regarded as "A or B" for example. Amended claim 1 now more precisely defines the intended limitation. It should now be clear that there do NOT need to be two guide grooves respectively provided in the side wall AND in the side member as asserted by the Examiner, but rather that there is a guide groove provided in a first element, and the first element is selected from a

group consisting of the side wall (of the baggage bin) and the side member (of the support structure).

Such a feature is clearly and completely disclosed in the original written description in a manner that would have enabled a person of ordinary skill in the art to practice the invention. For example, see the original written description at page 4, lines 15 to 19; page 9, lines 9 to 22; page 10, line 13 to page 12, line 15; etc., which clearly describe how to make and use the invention in connection with a preferred example embodiment thereof.

Accordingly, it is **NOT** intended (as asserted by the Examiner) *"that there are two grooves, i.e. one on the side wall of the baggage bin and the other on the side member of the support structure"*, and claim 1 has now been clarified to avoid such an interpretation. For the above reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 3 to 6, 8, 9, 11 to 15, 17 and 18 for lack of enablement under 35 USC §112, first paragraph.

- 6) Referring to section 5 on pages 4 to 5 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 1, 3 to 6, 8, 9, 11 to 15, 17 and 18 as being indefinite under 35 USC §112, second paragraph is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, it is **NOT** an intended limitation of claim 1 that *"there is a groove both in a movable element (i.e., baggage bin) and supposedly a fixed element (i.e., support structure)"* as asserted by the Examiner. Instead, claim 1 now more clearly requires that there is a groove in a first element,

and the first element is selected from a group consisting of the side wall (of the baggage bin) and the side member (of the support structure).

In view of the amendment, the claims are clear, particular, and definite, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

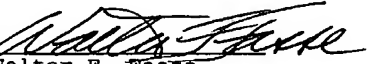
- 7) Referring to section 3 on pages 2 to 3 of the Office Action, the objection to the drawings is respectfully traversed, especially in view of the present amendment of claim 1. As discussed above, the relevant passage of prior claim 1 had been misinterpreted, because "a first one of A and B" does NOT mean "both of A and B". The original drawings completely and properly illustrate the intended invention that is now more clearly defined in amended claim 1. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection to the drawings.
- 8) Referring to section 6 on page 5 of the Office Action, the indication of allowance of claims 19 to 26 is appreciated. Those claims have been maintained without further amendment and should thus still stand allowed.
- 9) Since no other objection or rejection remains outstanding, the application should now be in allowable condition.

- 10) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 1 to 6, 8 to 12 and 14 to 26, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

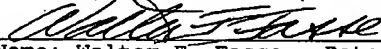
Michael LAU et al.
Applicant

WFF:ar/4270
Enclosures: IDS,
Second Form PTO-1449,
Form PTO-2038

By 
Walter F. Fasse
Patent Attorney
Reg. No.: 36132
Tel. 207-862-4671
Fax. 207-862-4681
P. O. Box 726
Hampden, ME 04444-0726

CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being transmitted by telefax to (703) 872-9306 on the date indicated below, and is addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P. O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

 12/2/04
Name: Walter F. Fasse - Date: December 2, 2004